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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3265
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0452
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 000753

SIPDIS

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EEB FOR MAUEL, HAENDLER AND HAYMOND
LONDON FOR AFRICA WATCHER
STATE PASS TO USTR
TREASURY FOR D. PETERS, USED
COMMERCE FOR RIVERO
USAID FOR C. GARRETT
ACCRA USAID/WARP FOR K. MCCOWAN, P. RICHARDSON

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/11/2017
TAGS: [EMIN](#) [ENRG](#) [EPET](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [ECON](#) [IBRD](#) [IV](#)
SUBJECT: COTE D'IVOIRE ON EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES
TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE

REF: SECSTATE 75118

Classified By: EMassinga, Acting PolEcon Chief, Reasons, 1.4 (b,d)

[¶1.](#) (C) Emboff met with Presidential diplomatic advisor Ambassador Ottra Toure on July 10 to follow up a June 19 delivery of reftel letter and points to President Gbagbo by the U.K.'s DFID. During the conversation, Ambassador Ottra Toure appeared siezed with the issue, although she said that neither she nor the President had seen it or were aware of the August 31 deadline. She promised to convene a working session with Emboff and the Presidency's energy counselor in the coming week to discuss the matter.

[¶2.](#) (C) Emboff told the Ambassador that while to date neither the U.S., U.K, IMF or World Bank were making Cote d'Ivoire's participation in the initiative a pre-requisite for the IFIs reengagement (Board votes for both the WB and IMF are scheduled this month on a combined initial package of over USD 240 million), Cote d'Ivoire's membership in the initiative would be seen very favorably. The international community is trying to encourage greater transparency related to oil, gas and electricity generation revenues by the Ivorian government in the context of the pending post-conflict assistance package, and officials from both international lending institutions believe Cote d'Ivoire's full participation in the EITI would complement those efforts nicely.

[¶3.](#) (C) Post has informed the local U.K. representative and IFIs officials of the demarche to Ottra Toure. The U.K. representative may follow up with a separate demarche to the Presidential energy counselor prior to Post's upcoming meeting with Ambassador Ottra Toure.
HOOKS